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FCC Homeland Security Policy

FCC Homeland Security Policy Council (HSPC)

[FCC > HSPC](#)
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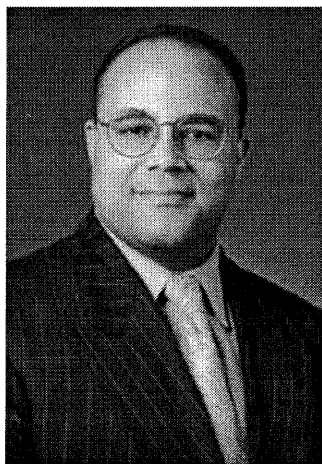
About the HSPC

[Organization](#)
[Policy Initiatives](#)
[Happenings](#)
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 Tel (202) 418-7450 / email: Homeland@fcc.gov

Mission:

- Assist the Commission in evaluating and strengthening measures for protecting U.S. telecommunications, broadcast and other communications infrastructure and facilities from further terrorist attacks;
- Assist the Commission in ensuring rapid restoration of U.S. telecommunications, broadcast, and other communications infrastructure and facilities after disruption by a terrorist threat or attack; and
- Assist the Commission in ensuring that public safety, public health, and other emergency and defense personnel have effective communications services available to them in the immediate aftermath of any terrorist attack within the United States.



"With the events of September 11th, it has become imperative that the communications community come together to determine our role in ensuring homeland security. We must be aggressive in ensuring that our policies maximize the many efforts being made to make our nation safe. We will work with industry to ensure the reliability and security of our nation's communications infrastructure."

Chairman's [Press Conference](#)
Oct. 23, 2001

Legal Resources

[Statutes](#)
[Executive Orders](#)
[Rules & Regulations](#)
[Pending Proceedings & Legislation](#)

Other Agencies

 Office of Homeland Security [OHS](#)

 National Security and Emergency Preparedness Communications [NSEPC](#)

 Department of Defense [DOD](#)

 Federal Emergency Management Agency [FEMA](#)

 National Communications System [NCS](#)

 National Coordination Center for Telecommunications [NCC](#)

 National Institute for Science and Technology [NIST](#)

 National Security Telecommunications Advisory Committee [NSTAC](#)

 National Telecommunications and Information Administration [NTIA](#)

 Federal Bureau of Investigation [FBI](#)

Organization of the HSPC

News Release Announcing Creation of Homeland Security Policy Council

Title/Organization	Name
Director	Marsha MacBride
Special Counsel	Peter Tenhula
Deputy Director	Linda Blair
<i>Council Members</i>	
Wireline Competition Bureau	Jeff Carlisle
Consumer and Governmental Affairs Bureau	Barbara Douglas
International Bureau	Linda Haller
Office of Engineering and Technology	Jeff Goldthorp
Office of Plans and Policy	Scott Marcus
Enforcement Bureau	Linda Blair
Media Bureau	Bob Ratcliffe
Media Bureau	Deborah Klein
Wireless Telecommunications Bureau	Catherine Seidel
Office of General Counsel	Jane Mago
Office of Legislative Affairs	Paul Jackson
Office of Managing Director	Bill Spencer

[top of page](#)

Policy Initiatives

■ Promote Network Reliability and Interoperability.

- On Jan. 7, 2002, the Commission re-chartered the Network Reliability and Interoperability Council (NRIC) to focus on lessons learned and existing vulnerabilities. NRIC Re-charter in [PDF](#) format.
- Jan. 4, 2002, Qwest Communications Chairman and CEO Joseph Nacchio Assumes Chair of NRIC. ([news release](#))
- In January, 2002, the Department of Justice and Department of the Treasury's Public Safety Wireless Network Program issued a report entitled: Answering The Call: Communications Lessons Learned From The Pentagon Attack. Report is available in [PDF](#) format.

■ Create a Federal Advisory Committee to advise the Commission on reliability and security for broadcast and multichannel video programming media.

■ Partner with federal, state and local entities and with industry to ensure network protection and reliability.

- Partnering Overview ([PPT](#))
- On Jan. 25, 2002, HSPC Director Marsha MacBride and HSPC bureau representatives met with the FCC's Local and State Government Advisory Committee to discuss homeland security-related matters ([LSGAC web page](#))

■ Improve public safety by addressing spectrum issues, including interoperability and redundancy.

- Related Web Sites:

Public Safety National Coordination
Committee

Private Land Mobile Radio (PLMR)
Spectrum Audit

700 MHz Public Safety Regional
Planning

- On April 3, 2002, the Commission released a Memorandum Opinion and Order granting VoiceStream Wireless Corporation's request for a temporary waiver of the Priority Access Service Rules. WT Docket No. 01-333. News Release in [Text](#) or [PDF](#) format. Commissioner Copps's statement in [Text](#) or [PDF](#) format. Commissioner Martin's statement in [Text](#) or [PDF](#) format. Order in [Text](#) or [PDF](#) format.
- On March 15, 2002, the Commission released a Notice of Proposed Rulemaking that Explores Options and Alternatives for Improving the Spectrum Environment for Public Safety Operations in the 800 MHz Band and Consolidating the 900 MHz Industrial/Land Transportation and Business Pool Channels. WT Docket No. 02-55. NPRM in [Text](#) or [PDF](#) format.
- On March 14, 2002, the Commission released the Fourth Memorandum Opinion and Order: In the Matter of the Development of Operational, Technical and Spectrum Requirement for Meeting Federal, State and Local Public Safety Communications Requirements Through the Year 2010. It responded to petitions for reconsideration of the January 17, 2001 Fourth Report and Order in the same WT Docket No. 96-86. Order in [Text](#) or [PDF](#) format.
- On March 14, 2002, the Commission adopted a Notice of Proposed Rulemaking that Explores Options and Alternatives for Improving the Spectrum Environment for Public Safety Operations in the 800 MHz Band. [News Release](#). Statements: [Abernathy](#) | [Copps](#) | [Martin](#).
- On February 27, 2002, the Commission released a Second Report and Order and Further Notice of Proposed Rulemaking allocating 50 megahertz of spectrum in the 4940-4990 MHz band for fixed and mobile wireless services

and designated the band for use in support of public safety. [News Release](#).
Commissioner Abernathy's [statement](#).
Order in [Text](#) or [PDF](#) format.

- On February 14, 2002, the Commission adopted a First Report and Order that permits the marketing and operation of certain types of new products incorporating ultra-wideband ("UWB") technology. UWB technology holds great promise for a vast array of public safety applications. [News Release](#).
Statements: [Copp](#) | [Martin](#)
- On February 14, 2002, WTB released a PN seeking comment on NITA's report on Current and Future Spectrum Use by the Energy, Water, and Railroad Industries. Comments are due March 6, 2002 and Replies March 18, 2002. (DA 02-361) The PN is available in [Text](#) or [PDF](#) format. The Federal Register notice, 67 FR 8982, of February 27, 2002 is available in [PDF](#) format.
- On January 30, 2002, NTIA submitted a study to Congress of the current and future use of spectrum by entities that protect and maintain the nation's critical infrastructure. Within six months after the release of this study, the Chairman of the FCC shall submit a report to Congress on the actions that could be taken by the Commission to address any needs identified in the NTIA Administrator's study. [Public Law 106-553, Enacted December, 21, 2000, 114 Stat 2762.] The NTIA study is available in [PDF](#) or [WordPerfect](#) format.
- Jan. 23, 2002 Report to Congress: Alternative Frequencies for Use by Public Safety Systems (138-144 MHz Report) [Public Law 106-398, Enacted Oct. 30, 2000, 114 Stat. 1654] This FCC Staff report was part of a joint submission to the Congress by the FCC and NTIA. The report is available in [PDF](#) format. See also the NTIA [companion report](#).
- Nov. 21, 2001 Nextel Communications, Inc. White Paper on Promoting Public Safety Communications: Realigning the 800 MHz Land Mobile Radio Band to Rectify Commercial Mobile Radio - Public Safety Interference and Allocate Additional Spectrum to Meet Critical Public Safety Needs, and related filings ([PDF](#) ~ [TEXT](#))

White Paper Transmittal
Letter: ([PDF](#) ~ [TEXT](#))
White Paper Exhibit
Presentation: ([PPT](#))
Public Safety Support Letter: ([PDF](#))

- Mar. 22, 2001 Corrected - Wireless Telecommunications Bureau seeks comment regarding Intelligent Transportation System applications using Dedicated Short Range Communications (DSRC) ([PDF](#))
- Jan. 17, 2001, Fourth Report & Order and Fifth Notice of Proposed Rulemaking: In the Matter of The Development of Operational, Technical and Spectrum Requirements for Meeting Federal, State and Local Public Safety Communication Requirements Through the Year 2010. Adopted various technical and operational rules and policies regarding the use of frequencies in the 764-776 MHz and 794-806 MHz bands designated for interoperability uses. ([PDF](#))
- May 11, 2000 NPRM: Ultra-Wideband Transmission ([PDF](#))

■ **Aggressively promote E911.**

- Commission orders setting Phase II compliance deadlines ([E911 web page](#))

■ **Work with other agencies to advance wireless priority access that balances the need for government response with the critical needs of subscribers (including 911).**

- Nov. 28, 2001 Petition for waiver of Section 64.402 of Commission rules filed by VoiceStream Wireless in order to implement a priority access service ([PDF](#))

[top of page](#)

Happenings [[archives](#)]

4/3/02

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3/28/02

[FCC Announces Creation Of Media Security & Reliability Council](#); Tribune Company President Dennis FitzSimons To Be Chairman.

3/15/02

The Commission released a Notice of Proposed Rulemaking that Explores Options and Alternatives for Improving the Spectrum Environment for Public Safety Operations in the 800 MHz Band and Consolidating the 900 MHz Industrial/Land Transportaiton and Business Pool Channels. WT Docket No. 02-55. NPRM in [Text](#) or [PDF](#) format.

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[top of page](#)

last reviewed/updated on 4/26/02

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